



The retirement of the British Ambassador, Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, announced a few days ago, although a great surprise in Washington, has been anticipated in London for more than a year. With the return of his colleague of Italy, Baron Mayor des Planches, after the reiterated statement from Rome that the latter envoy would retire from the diplomatic service rather than continue his residence in Washington, has created an interest in the why and whereof of these important changes, amounting almost to a sensation in social and official circles.

After all, it is in the social life of every capital that the important mission of diplomacy is understood and appreciated, and the drawing room of an embassy recognized as important a meeting place as the audience room of the State Department, or the private offices of the Chief Executive.

The promotion of harmonious social relations between individuals, as well as nations, is a necessary qualification of every successful diplomat of whatever nation or rank. The appointment of Baron Mayor des Planches and purchase of an embassy on New Hampshire avenue, five years ago, where for a season or two the Italian Ambassador and wife took an active part in social affairs, did much to dispel the impression of indifference left by Baron Mayor's predecessor, Baron Fava, who made his residence in New York and only came to Washington at long intervals, when demanded by state reasons, or to accept an invitation from the White House.

Last year, however, Baron and Baroness Mayor des Planches absented themselves entirely from Washington, not understanding the former succeeded to the title of Dean of the diplomatic corps, on the promotion of Count Cassini to the Ambassadorship to Spain, thus leaving one of the most important embassies practically closed to society, although in charge of a most accomplished and popular charge d'affaires in the person of Signor Gullio Montagna.

Even the return of Baron Mayor des Planches to remain through the official season is not regarded as a great advantage from a social point of view, as he will not be accompanied by his family and is likely to continue the bachelor establishment now maintained by Mr. Montagna.

The marriage last summer of Lieut. Carlo Plister, the naval attaché, to Miss Hester Laughlin, of St. Louis, gives this young American the unique position of being the only feminine representative of the Italian court in Washington, but does not, unfortunately, give her the place of the wife of an Ambassador, charge d'affaires, or first secretary, in which case she could aid very materially in the success of the coming winter.

The British Ambassador and family, in coming to Washington three years ago, suffered greatly by comparison with their immediate predecessors, the late Sir Michael and Lady Herbert, whose short reign of one season had made them preeminently the leaders of diplomatic society in America.

Lady Durand, being a semi-invalid, and her only daughter, just out of the school room, they naturally preferred a quiet home life, with a few close friends to share their afternoon tea, and the embassy staff to dine on special occasions.

In leaving Washington, Sir Mortimer and his family will take with them only the kindest of wishes, the unbounded respect of the American people. While the new ambassador may not be named until the early spring, it is a foregone conclusion that he will be a young man, who will promptly restore King Edward's embassy to its former social importance.

In the meantime, Mr. Esma Howard, whose social qualifications have already received considerable notice, will, it is believed, make an acceptable first secretary, and, with his wife, be worthy successors of Mr. Walter Beaupre Townley and Lady Susan Townley, whose home on Connecticut avenue was last winter the center of the younger diplomatic contingent, and all smart Washington, as well. Mr. Townley, as announced some time ago, is the newly appointed minister to the Argentine, and is now en route to Buenos Ayres.

The absence of the Baroness Mayor des Planches will leave Baroness von Hengelmüller, wife of the ambassador from Austria-Hungary, the ranking matron of the Diplomatic Circle, her long residence, and great personal popularity having made the official home of the Austria-Hungarian envoy second to none in Washington, even before its elevation to an embassy.

During the absence of the ambassador, who is now en route for a short visit to Vienna, Baroness Hengelmüller will neither entertain nor accept formal invitations, but will resume her usual hospitable customs with the opening of the season.

With the President and Mrs. Roosevelt on their way to Panama, the Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks in Indiana, and most of the Cabinet families taking advantage of the pleasant autumn weather to do their winter shopping or make short out-of-town trips on business or pleasure, official entertaining is at a standstill.

Of the former, the most interesting is Miss Kathleen Clayton, daughter of the former Ambassador to Mexico and Mrs. Powell Clayton, whose marriage to Mr. Arthur Grant-Duff, of the British diplomatic service, takes place to-morrow.

Although being celebrated at the Belgian Legation, where the bride is now the guest of her sister, the Baroness Moncheur, the invitations to the ceremony have been issued by the parents of the bride. They are limited strictly to personal friends of the young people, who will leave immediately after the ceremony for a short honeymoon trip to Virginia, and later in the month sail for England.

The Minister and Baroness Moncheur entertained at dinner last evening in compliment to the bride and bridegroom Miss Grace Thompson, of St. Louis, and Miss Roland Lindsey, the maid of honor and best man, respectively.

No formal debutante entertainments are scheduled for the present week, but instead, a number of interesting luncheons will be given, at which from ten to twenty of the future belles will have an

opportunity of improving one another's acquaintance under the most delightful circumstances.

While the recent decision to continue the bachelors' cotillions has been received with universal satisfaction, the detention of certain dancing men in Cuba and the unusually large number of girls to be presented this season leaves some question of doubt as to the chance of desirable partners, the law of supply and demand being quite as immutable in this connection as in the more practical, but to a debutante no more serious condition in life.

Even those few favored maidens engaged for the three cotillions are fearful of changes of either war or diplomacy between now and January 2, which is the date of the first ball.

The first private ball of the year, as already announced, will be a cotillion in honor of Miss Evelyn Chew, to be given by Mrs. John R. McLean at her I street home. Miss Chew will also enter on her career as one of the bridesmaids for her popular cousin, Miss Marie Barnes, whose marriage to Lieut. Mark Brooke is to take place with all the glory of military uniforms and a long train of attendants in historic old St. John's early in December.

Mrs. Shaw and the Misses Shaw returned yesterday from their home in Iowa, and have joined the Secretary of the Treasury at the Arlington for the winter.

The announcement of the marriage of Mrs. Alice Judson, of this city, formerly Mrs. Cyrus Field Judson, of New York, to Mr. Cambridge Livingston, also of New York, on Friday, at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Albert Key, came as a great surprise to Washington, where Mrs. Judson returned to make her residence a year ago.

The ceremony, at which only the immediate relatives of the contracting parties were present, was performed by Rev. Edward M. Mott, of the Episcopal Church. After an informal wedding breakfast, Mr. and Mrs. Livingston left for a Southern trip before going to their home in New York.

The bride, who was formerly popular in Washington, is the eldest of the four daughters of the late John Condit Smith, all of whom made their debut in Washington under the chaperonage of their stepmother and the latter's sister, Mrs. Field, wife of the late Justice Field, of the Supreme Court.

Mrs. Livingston's sisters are Mrs. Leonard Wood, now with her husband in the Philippines; Mrs. Albert Key, wife of the naval attaché at the White House, and Mrs. Richard Hooker, of this city, the latter, as Miss Polly Condit-Smith, having an exciting escape from death during the Boxer insurrection in China, where she was the guest of the then Secretary of the American Legation and Mrs. Herbert Squires.

Col. and Mrs. Arthur Lee, recent visitors to Washington, where the former was at one time attached to the British Embassy, sailed yesterday from New York for England. Col. Lee has retired from diplomacy, and is now a member of Parliament.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Langhorne have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Alice Langhorne, to Mr. Stanley Washburn on Tuesday afternoon, November 27, at St. John's Church, Lafayette Square.

The bride's only attendant will be her sister, Mrs. Powell Clayton, Jr., with Mr. E. C. Washburn, the bridegroom's brother, as best man. Admission to the church will be strictly by card, and the reception at the home of the bride's parents only to members of the two families.

Mr. Stanley Washburn was the war correspondent during the Russo-Japanese war for the Chicago Record-Herald. During the operations of the Japanese navy against Port Arthur and Dally he had charge of the Chicago newspaper's dispatch boat Fawan. He came back to America after the capitulation of Gen. Stoesel.

The announcement made some time ago that Prince Francis, of Teck, brother of the Princess of Wales, and a cousin of the late Queen Victoria, and otherwise allied to half of the royalties of Europe, intended to come to America to seek a wife with a fortune has assumed added interest in the past few days by the further announcement that H. R. H. has reconsidered his matrimonial intentions at least for the present, and commented to be adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Von Andre, of London, Mrs. Von Andre, having been born a Miss Palmer, of New York, and a sister of Mrs. Chauncey Dewey.

That Prince Francis sighed in vain for the heart, hand, and fortune of Miss Cayendish-Genet, who has been known to American and English society, so that his proposed trip to America was regarded as quite a proper and natural proceeding after the marriage of last Saturday.

He is thirty-six years of age, and rather old to be "adopted," but Mr. and Mrs. Von Andre have large means and no children, and have always been extremely fond of the handsome young personage who, with his brothers and sister, passed his childhood in Italy, where the late Duke of Teck made his home for many years.

Although always among the most impetuous of royalties, the children of the Duke of Teck have, with the exception of Prince Francis, made excellent marriages. Princess May is the future Queen of England, Prince Adolphus, Duke of Teck, the eldest brother, married Lady Margaret Evelyn Grosvenor, the daughter of the late Duke of Westminster, the wealthiest peer in England, and the youngest brother, Prince Alexander, became the husband, last year, of Princess Alice, of Albany, the niece of King Edward.

Prince Francis has been in the army and in business, and has tried various enterprises without success, but it is said without blame to himself. He is good-looking, and his relationship to royalty should certainly commend him to an American heiress, if that product of this land be not a bit chary, after recent developments in some foreign-American households. The Prince can marry whom he pleases, and it would no doubt be a great relief to his relatives, if he made a wealthy match. An American girl would be much more acceptable to them than a middle-class English heiress or a wealthy girl from the colonies.

Mrs. Alan Johnstone, wife of the British Minister to Denmark, arrived in New York yesterday for a visit of several weeks to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Pinchot, at their home in this city.

Lieut. Commander Frederick Rounselle Payne and Mrs. Payne have sailed for Italy for the purpose of spending their honeymoon in the ancient Patrizial palace near Siena, which has been loaned to them by the bridegroom's aunt, Mrs. M. L. Payne, to whom it now belongs. Young

Mrs. Payne was Miss Ethel Louise Gorton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Gorton, of Corning, N. Y. Commander Payne, who is well known in Washington, served with distinction during the Spanish-American war, when he entered the burning magazine of the cruiser Cincinnati and passed out the ammunition, suppressed illicit traffic and cut off insurgents in the Philippines and cut the cables at Santiago under fire of the forts.

The opening performance of "Jeanne d'Arc" at the Belasco to-morrow night promises to be a great social as well as artistic success, by reason of the unusually large number of theater parties arranged for the evening. The British Ambassador, the German Ambassador and Baroness von Sternburg, the Japanese Ambassador and Viscountess Aoki, the Belgian minister and Baroness Moncheur, Gen. and Mrs. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Legare, Capt. J. C. Gilmore, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Dunlop being some of the prospective hosts.

Brig. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, of the War Department, who has been under treatment at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., has been practically cured and will return to duty in Washington about November 17. Gen. Edwards has now been absent from Washington for about six months, and it is understood that the army surgeons at Fort Bayard have reported that his condition justifies a return to active duty.

Mrs. Aulick Palmer and Miss Palmer will give a tea at the Alibi Club Tuesday, December 4, in honor of Miss Katherine Clabaugh, the debutante daughter of Judge and Mrs. Clabaugh.

Mrs. Oldberg will entertain a box party at the Belasco Tuesday evening, when Southern-Marlows play "Jeanne d'Arc," complimentary to Miss Merrill Pears, of London. Miss Pears is a niece of Sir George and Lady Sayer, and is spending a short time in this country.

Gen. A. C. Taylor, U. S. A., retired, and Mrs. Taylor have taken apartments at the Hotel Gordon for the winter.

Elaborate preparations are being made by the Woman's Alliance of All Souls' Church, assisted by the Twentieth Century Club, for a Christmas sale, which will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 4 and 5, in the Davidge House, corner Seventeenth and H streets. On Monday evening, preceding the sale, at the same place, a concert will be given by a number of young girls, well known in society. The affair is under the direction of Mrs. C. E. Grunsky, whose experience in such affairs assures the success of the sale. The committee from the Twentieth Century Club is composed of the president, Mrs. Henry Gannett; Mrs. Thomas Sidwell, Mrs. Arthur Ramsey, Miss Grace Willis, Mrs. Frederick McKean, and Mrs. Claude E. Clifton.

Fancy work—Mrs. Thomas M. Woodruff and Mrs. Thomas M. Gale, assisted by Mrs. M. M. Fyler, Mrs. Edward H. Downs, Mrs. F. W. Fitzpatrick, Miss Agnes Fitzpatrick, Miss Ethel Henderson, Mrs. Joseph F. James, Mrs. William Curtis Hill, Miss Edith Totten, Mrs. David Hendershot, Katherine Koetz, Margaret McLennan, and May Jameson.

Candy—Mrs. Paul Brockett and Mrs. Walter C. Allen, assisted by Miss Alice Riley, Mildred Clark, Minnie Gilmore, Mrs. Thomas H. Hendershot, Katherine Koetz, Margaret McLennan, and May Jameson.

Aprons—Mrs. James M. Hood, assisted by Mrs. W. F. V. Stokes, Mrs. M. G. Sackett, Mrs. J. B. Tupper, Mrs. John J. Lightfoot, Mrs. S. C. Comstock, and Mrs. J. P. Torrey.

Bags and baskets—Mrs. J. E. Wilkie, assisted by Mrs. Z. L. Tanner, Mrs. I. S. Stone, Mrs. S. C. Comstock, Miss Lucy Solger, and Mrs. Hillebrand.

Dolls—Mrs. U. G. B. Pierce and Mrs. F. W. Clarke, assisted by Misses Helen Riley, Elizabeth Woodruff, and Leonora Rouger.

Delicatessen—Mrs. W. F. McLennan, Mrs. Sterling T. Smith, Mrs. Bernard Green, Mrs. M. H. Elia, and Mrs. Robert S. Woodruff.

Hosiery—Mrs. G. A. Myers, Mrs. J. S. Stephens, Mrs. Thomas G. Hensley, Miss Kean, and Miss Herbert.

Mystery—Miss Tullock, Miss Kuhlman, Mrs. E. A. Fay, and Miss Ada Adamson.

Dining-room—Mrs. Clarence V. Perley, Miss Mary Foster, Miss Susan Foster, Mrs. Annie R. Crandall, Mrs. Irvin Dunlop, Mrs. Richard Rathburn, Mrs. William D. Johnson, and Mrs. Charles R. Ely.

Art—Mrs. George E. Roberts, Miss Kirkup, Mrs. Charles H. Verrill, Mrs. L. E. Hyatt, and Miss Lucy Hale.

House committee—Mrs. John G. Walker, Mrs. David White, Mrs. John Russell Young, Mrs. C. V. Riley, and Mrs. Benjamin.

Gypsy fortune-telling—Mrs. S. G. W. Benjamin, Miss Metzger, Miss Kate Grunsky, and Clotilde Grunsky.

The Thursday Evening Cotillon Club was organized last evening at Raucher's, where the members opened the season with a dance. Officers were elected for this season as follows: President, James Richard Hewitt; vice president, Dr. Harry Hart; secretary-treasurer, J. Clinton Gladfelter. A business meeting was held at which a working organization was effected, committees appointed, and arrangements made to carry out the club's programme, which is to be a monthly german at Raucher's on the first or second Thursday of each month.

The season will be formally opened with the first german on December 13, which will be led by Dr. Harry Hart.

The following members were present: Vernon West, William Roberts, W. H. Barnum, Gilbert Woodruff, H. A. Kipp, G. A. Johnson, S. J. Turnbull, Donald Edmonds, Dr. Harry Hart, Carl D. Sheppard, Horace Dulla, E. O. Whitford, Dr. William Simkins, Clyde Garrett, M. W. White, J. C. Gladfelter, K. C. Crain, J. R. Hewitt, Manuel Sierra, Joseph Godoy, William R. Wharton, Claude Owens, Robert Walker, R. Rutherford, and F. J. Murphy, Jr.

The membership of the club is limited to fifty, and from present indications it is expected that the first german will be danced with a full membership.

where they will be for the winter. Miss Parham is to be one of the season's debutantes.

The Evermay Literary Club held its first meeting of the season at "Evermay," the home of Mrs. William B. Orme, on Twenty-eighth street.

The Congenials will hold their regular monthly assembly Thursday evening, November 22, at National Rifles' Armory.

Mr. Stanley Willard Webb, of Baltimore, is visiting friends at 1431 S street northwest.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Baum gave a dinner Tuesday evening in honor of the first anniversary of their marriage, also the forty-fourth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. Baum's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baum.

The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baum, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Baum, Miss Ida Baum, and Mr. Joseph Ullman.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Luchs will regret to hear that they will make New York their future home. The lady is already located there, but Mrs. Luchs and little Jane will not leave until the first of the year.

Mrs. A. Sigmund entertained at dinner on Sunday in honor of Mr. Abe Sigmund and Miss Helene Eiseleman, whose marriage will be an event of the new year. The invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Sol Meyer, Mr. B. Eiseleman, Mr. and Mrs. Al Sigmund, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Kaufman, Miss Helene Eiseleman, and Messrs. Abe Goldie and Howard Sigmund.

Mr. Charles Hildebrand, of Baltimore, visited friends the early part of last week.

Mrs. B. Rosenthal gave a dinner on Sunday evening complimentary to her son Silas and Miss Freda Lindheimer, whose engagement was recently announced. Those present were Mrs. Caroline King, Mr. and Mrs. Max Fischer, Mr. and Mrs. Harry King, Miss Freda Lindheimer, and Messrs. Silas, Ben, and Edward Rosenthal. The guests will be Messrs. and Mrs. Rosenthal will be at home to their friends Sunday evening, November 18, from 8 to 10, at 1515 T street northwest.

Mrs. Fred Schwab, of 1256 Columbia road, entertained the Ladies' Bridge Whist Club on Thursday afternoon. The prizes were won by Mrs. Wallenstein, Mrs. Rothschild, and Mrs. Arthur Baumgarten.

A Leap Year dance will be given at Acker's Hall November 15 by the following young ladies: Misses Flora Bernheimer, Leona Young, Maud Baer, Jeanette Gauss, Sadie Eiseleman, Estelle Hand, Cora and Irene Sommers, Flora Gauss, Natalie Mayer, Geneva Herman, Irma Stern, Eleanor Loeb, Helen Hopfenmaier, Gussie Broch, Clara Strauss, and Jennie Sanger.

Mrs. Solomon and family, of Eighth street, will be located at the Sterling, on Calvert street, after this week.

Mrs. Gus Nordlinger will entertain at whist Thursday complimentary to the out-of-town guests in attendance at the Luchs-Bensinger wedding.

Mrs. Eugene Schwab, of Eighth street southeast, will entertain the Bridge Whist Club Monday afternoon.

The marriage of Miss Helen Luchs and Mr. Sylvan Bensinger will be solemnized to-morrow evening at 6 o'clock at Raucher's. Miss Luchs will be attended by Miss Stella Bayersdorfer, of Philadelphia, as maid of honor, and Mr. Henry Goldsmith, of Boston, will be Mr. Bensinger's best man. The ushers will be Messrs. Harry Hahn, Milton and Irving Straburger, Stanley Auerbach, Gilbert Bensinger, and Eugene Luchs.

Mr. and Mrs. Levy, of Philadelphia, and Miss Stella Bayersdorfer are in town to attend the wedding.

The Mercantile Club will give an anniversary banquet on Wednesday evening, November 21.

For the benefit of the new temple of the Adas Israel Congregation, the ladies' auxiliary will give a dance November 21 at National Rifles' Armory.

Miss Meryl Goldsmith, of Alexandria, will be the guest of Miss Irene Sommers for this week.

Mr. A. E. Lissberger and Master Albert E. Lissberger, Jr., of Baltimore, were the guests of relatives last week.

Miss Claudia Zaleski left Friday for Colorado to join her brother, and expects to remain permanently in the West.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Litzenstein will be at home to-day in honor of the birthday of their son William.

Miss Julia Goldsmith, who divides her time between her home in Fredericksburg and Washington, was the guest of relatives during last week.

Miss Irene Sommers will give a box party at Chase's Wednesday evening, complimentary to her guest, Miss Goldsmith, of Alexandria.

The ladies' auxiliary of the Eighth Street Temple have resumed their Monday afternoon whists, which were so popular last season. The proceeds of each

meeting are added to the charity fund. Three prizes were awarded. The first to Mrs. Charles H. Kenney, with Miss Anna Keyser at the piano.

Mrs. S. Dorman, mother of Mr. C. O. McFadden, the newly-elected mayor of Long Branch, N. J., has been visiting her niece, Mrs. George W. MacMorris, of Capitol Hill.

Lieut. William C. Wise, Jr., U. S. M. C., son of Rear Admiral Wise, is on duty at the Marine Barracks, Annapolis, Md.

Dr. and Mrs. Walter Fraser, of Fort Myer, sailed on Tuesday, November 6, from New York, for England, on a two months' leave.

The bazaar given by the Stowaway Jackson Chapter, of U. D. C., in December, will introduce as a novel feature, "Mrs. Wiggs 'in' the Cabbage Patch."

The children of the Confederacy will be in charge of the flag and souvenir booth, where flags of all nations will be on sale.

The Washingtonians will give their second dance of the season in National Rifles' Armory on Wednesday evening, November 14. Admission will be by card and the committee on arrangements is making every effort to have the dance a most popular affair. The club meeting was held last Monday evening at the home of

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Mrs. Clarence B. Rheem will spend three weeks in Pennsylvania, the guest of friends.

Mrs. Charles Vettal, formerly Miss Ellis, of Capitol Hill, has gone to join Mr. Vettal in Detroit, where they will reside in the future.

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Gerry, of Capitol Hill, sailed for Europe on Wednesday. They expect to remain abroad until the first of the year.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherman P. Allen, of Seventeenth street, have gone to Florida for a month's visit.

Dr. M. A. De Laney, U. S. A., who has been spending the week at Fortress Monroe, has returned, and is a guest at the Buckingham.

Miss Countryman has returned home from a short trip to Massachusetts, where she has been visiting friends.

Mrs. Snowden W. Robinson and Miss Robinson, who have been spending several weeks in New York and Lakewood, N. J., returned Thursday to their home, in Seventeenth street.

Mrs. P. A. Pittman, of Woodstock, Va., is the guest of Mrs. J. Espota Daily, at 1401 H street, for the week end.

During the past week, Mrs. Cyrus Pickard and Miss Pickard, of Philadelphia, were the guests of Mrs. G. W. MacMorris, of 902 Maryland avenue northeast.

The next social meeting of the Council of Jewish Women, which takes place Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock, offers a very attractive programme, including an address by Dr. Joseph Krauskopf, of Philadelphia; a paper by Mrs. Alexander



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